

USAF Public Health Career Field News

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Still More (and more, and more!) USAFSAM Graduates Excel in '97

The list of 1997 success stories
marches on! (see issues #31, 33,
36 and 37 for more!)



Mac

The Somebody from my last newsletter
is **A1C Edmund Williams**, 4E, F.E.
Warren: 90th AMDS Airman of the Qtr, 4th
Qtr 97

MSgt Paul Clark, 4E, Dover: 436th AMDS
and 436th Medical Group SNCO of the Qtr,
3rd Qtr 97 and 436th SNCO of the Year, 1997

SrA Jeffery (J.J.) Johnson, 4E, Howard AB:
24th AMDS Airman of the Quarter, 4th Qtr
97

SSgt (s) Cov Havard, 4E, Hickam: 15th
AMDS of the Year, 1997

SSgt Ken Thomas, 4E, Hickam: 15th
AMDS NCO of the Year, 1997

Maj (s) Nancy Fagan, PHO, Hickam: 15th
AMDS CGO of the Year, 1997

Medical Readiness Training Now Uniformly Tracked or...

What is SMRTS Anyway?

The Standardized Medical Readiness Training System (SMRTS) is a database managed by your unit Medical Readiness Flight. It has been in place at many MTFs since early 1997. MTF Commanders can use it to determine our readiness (in terms of training) to fulfill assigned contingency missions.

The war skills listed in the database are sorted by AFSC. The list of skills is currently undergoing a thorough review. Essentially, the skills listed in SMRTS will (after the review and update) mirror selected war skills listed the Career Field Education and Training Plans (CFETP).

The Public Health review is almost complete. We will have about 30 tasks listed in SMRTS, each with an annual training frequency. Each skill in SMRTS will include a reference to the CFETP line number, to ease your documentation task. This work was done by your USAFSAM-PH Readiness Team.

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I think you'll find the tracking of 30 skills, worded exactly as they are in the CFETP, a manageable task.

I don't know when this updated SMRTS will be sent to the field, but can tell you that the suspense for inputs is in January 98. So it shouldn't be too long.

A sneak preview of the SMRTS 4E war skills (officer skills aren't included in SMRTS yet) will be available on the USAFSAM-PH Home page (under readiness) in early February.

SMRTS will evolve over time. For example, skills will eventually be linked to Unit Type Codes (UTCs; aka standardized deployable medical teams). For PH, that's easy. All decon tasks link to UTC FFGLB (decon). All other UTCs with a 4E on the team will link to all non-decon 4E war skills. Officer skills (when added) will match 4E skills, with some decon exceptions.

We'll continue to seek a simple, meaningful Public Health skills list in future versions of the SMRTS.

The following message was released from HQ USAF/SGX on 14 January. It may provide more insight into SMRTS:

:UNCLAS

SUBJECT: STANDARDIZED MEDICAL READINESS TRAINING SYSTEM (SMRTS) UNIT LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

1. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO CLARIFY ISSUES REGARDING THE STANDARDIZED MEDICAL READINESS TRAINING SYSTEM (SMRTS). THREE AREAS OF FOCUS ARE: 1) POLICY GUIDANCE; 2) INSPECTION OF BASE LEVEL SMRTS PROGRAMS; AND 3) RELATIONSHIP OF SMRTS TO THE ENLISTED CAREER FIELD EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM (CFETP).
2. HQ USAF-SGX RELEASED TWO LETTERS (NOV 96 AND FEB 97) REGARDING

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THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMRTS. THEY PROVIDED GUIDANCE TO MEDICAL FACILITIES BEGINNING TO IMPLEMENT SMRTS. THEY WERE NOT INTENDED TO BE POLICY LETTERS OR MANDATES. THE FOCUS OF THESE LETTERS WERE TWOFOLD; 1) THE NEED FOR COMPREHENSIVE AFSC AND MISSION SPECIFIC TRAINING TO ENSURE MISSION READY MEDICAL PERSONNEL; AND 2) THE NECESSITY FOR BOTH THE MEDICAL READINESS AND MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FLIGHTS TO WORK TOGETHER IN BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM. THE NEWLY REVISED AFI 41-106 WILL FORMALLY ADDRESS THIS GUIDANCE AS POLICY IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD HAS IDENTIFIED GREAT CONCERN REGARDING LACK OF POLICY IN THE INSPECTION OF READINESS TRAINING PROGRAMS. WAR-MED PSO HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM AFIA, AND CAREER FIELD MANAGERS TO ESTABLISHED SPECIFIC OVERSIGHT PARAMETERS FOR SMRTS. TO MEET THESE OVERSIGHT PARAMETERS, THE FOLLOWING STEPS ARE RECOMMENDED:

- A. DOCUMENT ALL IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS.
- B. IDENTIFY THE UNIT'S DEPLOYMENT MISSION.
- C. IDENTIFY ALL AFSCS ASSIGNED TO THE FACILITY.
- D. APPOINT A FUNCTIONAL TRAINING MANAGER AS OPR FOR EACH AFSC, ENLISTED AND OFFICER.
- E. ASSIGN THESE AFSC SPECIFIC OPRS TO REVIEW TRAINING REQUIRED TO MEET UNIT DEPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS.
- F. IDENTIFY TASKS PERFORMED DURING DAILY PRACTICE, ROUTINE INSERVICES, EXERCISES, ETC.
- G. DEVELOP A TRAINING PLAN TO ADDRESS NON-ROUTINELY PERFORMED TASKS, TO INCLUDE METHOD AND TIMELINES.
- H. IMPLEMENT THE TRAINING PLANS SET BY THE AFSC OPRS.

4. THE THIRD AREA REQUIRING CLARIFICATION IS THE DISCONNECT BETWEEN THE CFETP AND SMRTS. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEED FOR ONE SYSTEM, TO TRACK READINESS CORE COMPETENCIES, TRAINING MET, AND TRAINING

DEFICIENCIES FOR ALL AFSCS. WE ALSO BELIEVE THIS SAME SYSTEM SHOULD BE LINKED TO THE CFETP FOR EACH ENLISTED AFSC. WORK IS ON-GOING TO ENSURE A LINK IS DEVELOPED BETWEEN SMRTS, CFETP AND OTHER, PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED, TOTAL FORCE DATABASES.

5. HQ USAF-SGXR AND THE CAREER FIELD MANAGERS ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN DETERMINING THE OPTIMUM METHOD OF INTEGRATING SMRTS AND CFETP. ATTENTION IS BEING PLACED ON IDENTIFYING CORE COMPETENCIES, REDUCING REDUNDANCY, AND INITIATING METHODS TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. THE FIRST STEP, OF THIS IMPORTANT PROCESS, WAS THE DISTRIBUTION OF A PACKAGE TO ALL CAREER FIELD MANAGERS ON 14 NOV 97 REQUESTING THE DETERMINATION OF AFSC SPECIFIC CORE COMPETENCIES. THE NEXT STEP IS TO CONNECT CFETP AND SMRTS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.

6. WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE ALL MEDICAL FACILITIES TO RAISE THEIR CFETP AND SMRTS CONCERNS TO THEIR UNIT SENIOR ENLISTED REPRESENTATIVES SO THEY CAN BE FORWARDED UP THE CHAIN TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMAND CHIEFS AND THE AIR STAFF. THIS COORDINATED EFFORT WILL ENSURE UNIT NEEDS ARE BROUGHT TO THE TABLE AND ADDRESSED IN THE APPROPRIATE FORUM WHERE IMPROVEMENTS TO SMRTS WILL BE MADE.

7. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED THROUGH HQ AFIA, WAR-MED PSO, AND THE MEDICAL CAREER FIELD MANAGERS. ADDRESS QUESTIONS TO YOUR MAJCOM FUNCTIONAL MANAGER OR MEDICAL READINESS DIVISION. AIR STAFF POCS ARE: CAPT LENT-TUCKER, WAR-MED PSO, DSN: 343-7596, EMAIL: DLT@FTDETRCK-CCMAIL.ARMY.MIL AND CMSGT PAMELA TRAMMELL, HQ USAF-SGWA, DSN: 297-4351, E-MAIL: TRAMM@SG-USA.F.MEDNET.AF.MIL.